

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 PM-05 NSCE-00 SSO-00 INRE-00
ACDA-12 CIAE-00 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 EB-08 NRC-05
SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01 ISO-00
/111 W

-----080983 121120Z /10

O 120836Z MAY 78 ZFD
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6349
INFO USDOEHQ WASHDC
USDOEHQ GERMANTOWN

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 02 VIENNA 04376

USIAEA

DEPT PASS IO/SCT
DOE PASS AMMONS, IA

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: AORG, PARM, IAEA
SUBJECT: IAEA DDG FOR SAFEGUARDS: SUCCESSOR TO DR.
ROMETSCH
REFERENCE: VIENNA 01598

1. SUMMARY. DG EKLUND INFORMED ME MAY11 HE WAS
OFFICIALLY PROPOSING DR. HAND JOSEF GRUMM OF AUSTRIA
AS SUCCESSOR TO ROMETSCH AS IAEA DEPUTY DG FOR SAFE-
GUARDS. SOVIET AMBASSADOR SUBSEQUENTLY ASKED FOR OUR
VIEWS, SAYING HE FELT IT EXCEEDINGLY IMPORTANT THAT
US AND USSR TAKE COMPARABLE POSITIONS ON THIS IMPORTANT
ISSUE. I RECOMMEND MISSION BE AUTHORIZED TO TELL
SOVIETS WE CAN AGREE WITH DG'S CHOICE AND URGE THEM
TO DO SO, INFORMING DG OF OUR VIEWS, BUT STATING
THAT OUR FORMAL AGREEMENT MUST AWAIT OUTCOME OF OUR CON-
SULTATIONS WITH SOVIETS. END SUMMARY.

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2. DG INVITED ME TO MEET DR. GRUMM MAY 11. WE SPENT
HALF HOUR TOGETHER. GRUMM, WHO LOOKS MUCH YOUNGER
THAN HIS 59 YEARS, EXPLAINED IN VERY GOOD ENGLISH HIS
BACKGROUND, HIS SATISFACTION WITH HIS PRESENT JOB,
AND HIS READINESS TO SERVE IN WHAT HE CALLED THE
EXCEEDINGLY IMPORTANT TASK OF DDG FOR SAFEGUARDS.

HE STRUCK ME AS INTELLIGENT, TECHNICALLY INCLINED, BUT WITH A CERTAIN CONSCIOUSNESS OF POLITICAL REALITIES, AND EXTREMELY EAGER TO PLEASE. WHEN I ASKED WHO HE KNEW IN US, HE MENTIONED MR. CLIFFORD BECK (FORMERLY OF AEC), SAID HE HAD HAD SOME DEALINGS WITH MR. SPANNER OF NRC AND THAT HE HAD WORKED CLOSELY WITH ALLIED NUCLEAR . WHITE PLAINS OFFICE IN MID-60'S.

3. AFTER GRUMM LEFT, DG TOLD ME HE HAD DECIDED TO PROPOSE GRUMM AS ROMETSCH'S SUCCESSOR. HE SAID GRUMM HAD GREAT TECHNICAL EXPERTISE; HAD SUCCESSFULLY MANAGED ENTERPRISES OF CONSIDERABLE SIZE; WAS CONSIDERED AN EXCELLENT NEGOTIATOR BY THOSE (ESPECIALLY IN GERMANY) WITH WHOM HE HAD WORKED; AND THAT MORALE WAS HIGH ON HIS STAFF. DG NOTED THAT SEARCH FOR ROMETSCH'S SUCCESSOR HAD BEEN MARKED BY HIGHLY UNUSUAL NATIONAL CANVASSING FOR THE POST AND HE HAD FELT IT IMPORTANT TO MAKE HIS OWN CHOICE AND THEN SEEK BOARD MEMBERS' SUPPORT. HE WAS INFORMING CANADIANS, SWISS, YUGOSLAVS AND SOVIETS OF HIS CHOICE. HE HOPED VERY MUCH BOARD, WHICH HAD ALWAYS SUPPORTED HIS NOMINATIONS, WOULD DO SO IN THIS CASE. I SAID I WOULD DISCUSS THIS IN WASHINGTON.

4. SOVIET AMBASSADOR EROFEEV CAME TO SEE ME LATER IN THE DAY. HE REFERRED TO GRUMM NOMINATION, SAYING HE CONFIDENTIAL

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DID NOT RPT NOT KNOW GRUMM AND WOULD HAVE TO FIND OUT MORE ABOUT HIM. HE WOULD HAVE BEEN PREPARED TO SUPPORT CANADIAN CANDIDATE SUCH AS PRINCE. WHEN I RECALLED HIS EARLIER COMMENTS TO ME THAT PRINCE WAS TOO OLD (VIENNA 03510), HE DEMURRED, SAYING PRINCE COULD PERHAPS SERVE FOR TWO YEARS WHILE SEARCH FOR MORE PERMANENT SUCCESSOR CONTINUED. HE COULD ALSO CONSIDER AN AUSTRALIAN CANDIDATE FAVORABLY. HE THEN ASKED OUR VIEWS, INCLUDING HOW WE WOULD REACT TO A NEW CANDIDATE-- PERHAPS ONE FROM EASTERN EUROPE.

5. I SAID I HAD NO INSTRUCTIONS AND THAT WE DID NOT RPT NOT KNOW GRUMM WELL. I RECALLED OUR SUPPORT FOR PRINCE, BUT NOTED THAT HIS CANDIDACY DID NOT RPT NOT SEEM TO HAVE ATTRACTED GENERAL SUPPORT. I SAID I WAS SURE WE WOULD GIVE VERY CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO DG'S VIEWS. IT WAS MY PERSONAL VIEW THAT WE SHOULD GO ALONG WITH DG UNLESS OUR INVESTIGATIONS UNCOVERED SOME SERIOUS DEFICIENCY IN GRUMM. I DID NOT RPT NOT THINK AN EASTERN EUROPEAN CANDIDATE WOULD BE APPROPRIATE.

6. EROFEEV SAID HE FELT IT ESPECIALLY IMPORTANT THAT

US AND USSR REACH AGREEMENT BETWEEN THEMSELVES AND WITH
DG ON THIS IMPORTANT POST. HE ASKED TO BE INFORMED AS
SOON AS WE HAD ANY EVEN PRELIMINARY VIEWS FROM WASHINGTON
AND ASSERTED HE WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE REPORTING TO MOSCOW
UNTIL HE HEARD FROM US. I UNDERTOOK TO GIVE HIM OUR
VIEWS AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

7. COMMENT: WHILE GRUMM WOULD NOT RPT NOT HAVE BEEN
OUR PREFERRED CANDIDATE, I FEEL WE SHOULD ACCEDE TO
DG'S WISHES. HE HAS HAD RICH TECHNICAL BACKGROUND AND
FACT HE COMES FROM NEUTRAL EUROPEAN STATE WILL SIT WELL
WITH MANY BOARD MEMBERS. HOWEVER, I AGREE WITH MY SOVIET

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NRC-05 SOE-02 DODE-00 DOE-15 SS-15 SP-02 CEQ-01
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O 120836Z MAY 78
FM AMEMBASSY VIENNA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6350
INFO USDOEHQ WASHDC
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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 02 OF 02 VIENNA 04376

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COLLEAGUE THAT US-USSR AGREEMENT ON THIS POST IS EX-
CEEDINGLY IMPORTANT.

8. THEREFORE, I RECOMMEND, AS NOTED IN PARA 1 ABOVE,
THAT WASHINGTON AUTHORIZE MISSION TO TELL SOVIETS WE
CAN ACCEPT GRUMM AND URGE THEM TO DO SO, INFORMING DG,
BUT NOTING THAT OUR FORMAL AGREEMENT MUST AWAIT OUTCOME
OF CONSULTATIONS WITH SOVIETS.

9. IN UNHAPPY EVENT SOVIETS DECIDE THEY SIMPLY CANNOT
ACCEPT GRUMM, THERE IS ALWAYS WILSON OF AUSTRALIA.

(EROFEEV SAID AGAIN TODAY THAT CANADA OR AUSTRALIA
ARE GOOD SOURCES OF CANDIDATES FOR THIS POST IN SOVIET
EYES.)

L0. PURSUANT TO MY TELEPHONE CALL WITH FARLEY, I HAVE
TOLD EKLUND THAT WE WILL HAVE TO GIVE GRUMM CANDIDACY A
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VERY CAREFUL LOOK. HE EXPRESSED COMPLETE UNDERSTANDING.
KIRK

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